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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/990,491
Applicant : INOUE, Tamio
Filed : November 20, 2001
TC/A.U. : 3723
Examiner : ROSE, Robert A.

Confirmation No.: 3406

Attorney Docket No. : 5150-005
Customer No.: 35411

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Official Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 14, 2003, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before November 14, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and are reflected in the two (2) replacement sheets included in an **Appendix**.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.